

Guess Paper (2024-25)

Class – XII Set-A

Subject – English Core (CODE: 301)

Time 3 hrs.

M.M. 80

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- This paper is divided into four Sections: A, B, C and D. All the questions in each section are compulsory.
- Separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary. Read these instructions very carefully and follow them faithfully.
- Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.
- Handwriting should be neat and legible.

SECTION A: READING (22M)

Q1. Read the passage carefully. 12M

1. There are few swimming pools in the city

and the ones which are there are either too small or too overcrowded to allow you to swim several laps at a stretch, undisturbed.

2. Still, a workout in the pool on a hot summer day is preferable to a jog or long walk. Experts have devised several exercises which can be performed in any kind of pool. The added bonus is that many of these exercises can be performed by non-swimmers. They are especially beneficial to people with arthritis and for patients who have been advised physiotherapy.

3. As with any form of activity, never overstrain. Alternate intense activity with rest- that is, exercise in the water till you are breathless, then slow down to recover your breath.

4. To strengthen hip and leg muscles, hold on to the sides of the pool. Keep your body afloat

with the legs straight behind you. Now move your legs up and down, like scissors like beginners who are learning to swim. Do this for a minute, then rest and repeat.

5. Finally, move on to your back and repeat the exercise.

6. Swimmers can move into the deep and keep afloat by paddling or moving the legs in a circular fashion, like cycling. This builds up the leg muscles, besides it has several aerobic benefits for the heart.

7. For an upper body workout, stand till the water comes up to the shoulder level. Stretch arms sideways and make small circular motions inside the water. Do these at least 10 times clockwise and anti-clockwise. Then repeat the process again and again.

8. Imitating the crawl stroke, you can extend

one arm forward, the other back, rhythmically. Wind-mill both arms alternately through the water, till you can begin to feel the exertion. Rest a while, then repeat the exercises.

9. To improve breathing, stand fully submerged in water. Extend arms in front of, with palms facing down and parallel to the floor. In one movement, pull hands downward thighs, even as you kick off the floor and rise up to the top. Take a deep breath as soon as the head is out of the water.

10. For exercises in the water to be beneficial, attempt them at least five times a week.

11. Experts suggest that an activity like swimming must be done continuously for at least 10 to 30 minutes to be beneficial.

12. Swimming has several benefits, which

makes it score over other forms of physical activity. Since the body has to be kept straight while swimming it strengthens the muscles of the spinal cord, thereby improving posture. This activity not only cools you off physically but soothes the mind as well. Doctors recommend it to kill stress. Swimming also improves blood circulation not only because of the physical exertion involved, but also because of the water pressure. This pressure stimulates the heart to pump blood.

13. Experts say that swimming for a little over half a kilometre per hour could burn some 200 calories for an average-sized person. A heavier person, who has to exert more, naturally burns up more calories.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

(a) According to paragraph 1, what is the author talking about? 1M

(b) What are the various benefits of swimming? 2M

(c) Read and complete the following sentence suitably.

Alternate intense activity with rest - that is, exercise in the water till you are breathless then slow down to recover your breath. 1M

Choose the correct response from the two options to complete the sentence.

The concern this analogy points towards is about

(1) swimming

(2) exercise

(d) Complete the sentence appropriately with reference to paragraph 12. 1M

Swimming strengthens the muscles of the spinal cord and also

(e) According to the passage, how do exercises prove to be beneficial?

(i) Do them thrice a week.

(ii) Do them continuously in the water.

(iii) Do them five times a week for thirty minutes per day.

(iv) Do them for thirty minutes continuously.

(f) Provide a textual evidence to support the view that the writer's writing style is factual.

1M

(g) in the line, "Doctors recommend it to kill stress"? What does the word 'kill "mean here?

Para12. 1M

(h) Complete the analogy with ONE word from paragraph 7. 1M

Ultimately: finally: :.....: recline

(i) stretch (ii) like (iii) dislike (iv) curve

- (i) Select the option that tries to make the passage inclusive. 1M
- (i) It chooses exercises that can be done by non-swimmers.
 - (ii) Every part of the body is exercised in the pool.
 - (iii) All the exercises are interconnected with swimming strokes.
 - (iv) It is more on exercising than on swimming.
- (j) What is the opinion of the experts regarding the burning of calories as outlined in paragraph 13? 2M

Q2. Read the hollowing passage carefully.
10M

1. The internet offers anonymity that makes life easier for bullies. As both research and common sense attest, allowing users to hide their identity abets abuse. If you use the

internet, the odds are about even that you'll be mistreated there. A 2011 Pew Research report found that 41 per cent of the US adults have personally experienced online harassment. Fifty-five per cent think it is a "major problem" Seventy-five per cent victims say that their most recent experience was on social media. It is akin to driving in rush hour traffic exposing ourselves to regular abuse.

2. We mistakenly assume that cyber attackers follow conventional behaviour People try to reason with trolls or appeal to their better nature in vain because they misapprehend a troll's true motives-attract attention, exercise control, and manipulate others. Online harassers are not considered well adjusted. A 2019 study found significant associations between trolling and psychopathy, Machiavellianism, sadism, and narcissism, in that order. In other words, strangers attacking you on social media or in person are severely

damaged. But, we often have trouble understanding that and take online attacks seriously, as a form of self-criticism, that is hard to ignore.

3. But somehow, online harassment seems more bothersome. Americans rate online political discussions as 50 per cent more negative than offline discussions. The reason is that once abusers enter an online space, they tend to take it over because all bullies have personality disorders. Trolls like trolling, without much threat of being beaten up, while moral people exit- all increasing the troll-to-normal ratio over time.

4. Even if you want to bid the online sewer a not-so-fond adieu, your circumstances might make doing so, too costly. And maybe you simply don't want to be forced off social media by the trolls, any more than you would placidly accept being forced off the

playground because of menacing bullies who treat it as their exclusive property. But we are not helpless in the face of either online abusers or the ones flipping us off on the highway.

5. In the case of threats or hate speech, you may want to make your non-receipt more tangible by blocking the trolls, and reporting the abuse. This remedy is imperfect at best, unfortunately. given social-media companies' spotty record at enforcement of their own norms. Not receiving an insult (blocking and reporting an attacker) and ignoring trolls is crucial for stopping abuse. Deny them the reward they seek. Responding to a bully on the internet or in real life-remember, they are typically the same people-is proof that they seek dominance through aggression. Don't feed this monster, in person or online. When possible, meet aggression with deafening silence.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

(a) Complete the following suitably.

The 2011 study attempts to enlighten the victims of online abuse by 1M

(b) Which option DOES NOT substantiate the author's view about the unconventional social behaviour of the online abusers? 1M

(i) Online abusers are psychopaths.

(ii) Online abusers are not considered 'well-adjusted individuals.

(iii) Trolls can be reasoned with and their better nature can be appealed to.

(iv) They troll for sadistic entertainment.

(c) Infer if the author compares negotiating heavy traffic with the business of trolling

directly or indirectly. 2M

(d) Paragraph 3 includes words 'bullies' and 'beaten'. 1M

Classify the following sentences as "bullies" or "beaten".

Sentence 1: Reema used her strength to frighten her classmates who are weaker to her.

Sentence 2: Last Saturday, Rohit had physically offencled his acquaintance in front of his other friends.

(e) Read the following.

Harsh's target is to hurt, harass or upset someone else online.

Roshan's target is to meet his foreign friends here.

Sohna's target is to just scroll down the things happening online.

Select the option that identifies the correct category Harsh, Roshan and Sohna belong to.

1M

- (i) Harsh-abuser, Roshan-user, Sohna - user
- (ii) Harsh-user, Roshan-user; Sohna - user
- (iii) Harsh-abuser, Roshan-abuser, Sohna-user
- (iv) Harsh-user, Roshan-abuser; Sohna-abuser

(f) Explain the terms Sadism and Narcissism.

(Para 2) 2M

(g) Give the synonym of word 'concrete' from para 5. 1M

(h) Which of the following displays the most likely reason for us feeling more worried about online trolling than facing abuse in real life? 1M

- (i) Online political discussions are 50 per cent more negative than offline discussions.
- (ii) Trolls invade and dominate online space

without any fear of consequences.

(iii) Those who get bothered by constant abuse exit social media.

(iv) We take attacks as a form of self-criticism that that is hard to ignore.

SECTION B: CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS (18M)

Q3. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B) in about 50 words. 4M

(A) Your school is Introducing five week certified module in 'Graphic Design' during the summer vacation. Draft a notice in 50 words asking interested students to register for the same latest by 20th April, Mention relevant details like fee, timings and course coverage. You are Nisha/ Nisharit, Academic Incharge.

OR

(B) There is a great virtue in recycling and

reusing things rather than throwing them out on s whim. Wastage must be avoided. With this objective, used sports goods and equipment will be put on sale by your school. Write a notice as the Secretary of the Sports Club of your school. You are Geetansh/ Geetanjali, Invent other necessary.

Q4. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B) in about 50 words. 4M

(A) You are Deepti Bhardwaj. Your elder brother, Vivek is getting married in February. Draft an invitation to be sent to all relatives, friends and business associates of your family. Your draft must contain details of the event and the venue.

OR

(B) You are Karan Mohan, a business associate of Mr. K.C Ahuja whose daughter is getting married in a few days. Although you have

received the formal invitation from Mr. K.C. Ahuja but will not be able to attend the wedding. Citing the reason, write a response expressing your inability to attend the wedding.

Q5. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B) in about 50 words. 5M

(A) The dreaded monsoon season has arrived and so have different kind of fevers. Although awareness campaigns are rampant in the media, the actual reality is contrary to them. It seems municipal authorities have abandoned the citizens to their fate. The roads littered with potholes have stagnant water and mosquitoes breeding in them. Write a letter to editor of the Hindustan Times about the mosquito menace in your locality. Give suggestions to improve the situation. You are Raman/Rama a resident of Ram Nagar, Kanpur.

OR

(B) You have read an advertisement in The International Tribune for the post of chartered accountant in Happy Times Industry, Kanpur. You believe you possess the requisite qualifications and experience and would prove to be an asset to the company. Write to the Director of Happy Times Industry, along with your biodata expressing your interest in the above said post. You are Amrendra Singh of 2, Kailash Puri, Delhi.

Q6. Attempt any one of the two, (A) or (B) in about 50 words. 5M

(A) With increasing population and emigration to almost all metropolitan cities of the country from the villages and small towns, the rate of crime has also increased proportionately. The police personnel need to be trained in the latest methods of combating crime and criminals but the role of citizens

can also be not emphasized enough. They can support and strengthen the local police quite well. As Raveena/Ravi Kumar, draft an article with a suitable heading.

OR

B. The most prestigious and much-awaited Annual City Cricket Tournament was held recently in Hyderabad. You went to cover it. Write a report, covering this event.

SECTION C: LITERATURE (40 M)

Q7. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two-A or B. 6M

*A. Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,
Trees old, and young, sprouting a shady boon
For simple sheep; and such are daffodils*

*With the green world they live in;
and clear rills That for themselves a cooling
covert make
'Gainst the hot season; the mid forest brake,
Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose
blooms; (A Thing of Beauty)*

(a) What is the role of clear rills?

(b) Pick out the option that uses the same literary device as the "Some shape of beauty".

- (i) glaring lights
- (ii) deafening silence
- (iii) icy-cold hand
- (iv) roaring river

(c) Complete the following suitably. The symbolism in the phrase 'simple sheep' has been used by the poet with the purpose of

..... .

(d) Select the correct option from those given

in brackets to fill in the blank. The poet's words 'some shape of beauty' refer to beauty as an (abstract/concrete) idea.

(e) Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion: The things of beauty leave a lasting impression on human.

Reason: A thing of beauty gives us happiness.

Choose the correct option regarding the statements

- (i) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
- (ii) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
- (iii) The assertion is true, but the reason is

false.

(iv) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

(f) How has the mid forest become rich ?

OR

B. The polished traffic passed with a mind ahead.

*Or if ever aside a moment, then out of sorts.
At having the landscape marred with the
artless paint Of signs that with N turned
wrong and S turned wrong.*

(a) Select the phrase that suggests the following. The chaotic traffic made people quite disturbed and uneasy.

(b) Select the option that WILL NOT complete the sentence appropriately.

This passage is all about

- (i) decline in agricultural prosperity
- (ii) decline in industrial prosperity
- (iii) rise in the prosperity of the cities
- (iv) rise in inhumane conduct in human hearts

(c) Complete the following suitably. The traffic is described as 'polished because it depicts the urban city dwellers in their shining cars

(d) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank.

The mindset of the drivers reflected in the above lines lacks (humanity/curiosity).

(e) Read the assertion and the reason below, with reference to the given extract.

Assertion: The 'polished traffic' refers to the

cars and other vehicles that pass by the new shed of the road.

Reason: The poet is not at all concerned about the rural people.

Choose the correct option regarding the statements.

(i) Both the assertion and the reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.

(ii) Both the assertion and the reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.

(iii) The assertion is true, but the reason is false.

(iv) The assertion is false, but the reason is true.

(f) What does the 'polished traffic' reveal about the city people?

Q8. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two (A) or (B). 4M

A. But this eating by formula was not the hardest trial in that first day. Late in the morning my friend, Judewin gave me a terrible warning, Judewin knew a few words in English, and she had overheard the paleface woman talk about cutting our long, heavy hair. Our mothers had taught us that only unskilled warriors who were captured had their hair shingled by the enemy. Among our people, short hair was worn by mourners and shingled hair by cowards! We discussed our fate some moments, and when Judewin said, "We have to submit because they are wrong", I rebelled.

(a) Complete the following suitably.
The best interpretation of Zitkala-Sa's comment 'eating by formula' would be

..... .

(b) How did Zitkala Sa react when Judewin said, "We have to admit because they are wrong"?

(c) Why did Zitkala-Sa rebel? This is because
..... .

(i) she became a victim of social and cultural oppression.

(ii) she was forced to cut her long and heavy hair compulsorily.

(iii) the cutting of the hair was a symbol of her oppression.

(iv) she was acting to do so.

(d) Write about the writing style of the narrator.

OR

B. They saw when they came toward him that indeed it was so. The sand on one side of him

had already a stain of red soaking through. "He is wounded," Sadao exclaimed. He made haste to the man, who lay motionless, his face in the sand. An old cap stuck to his head soaked with sea water. He was in wet rags of garments. Sadao stopped, Hana at his side, and turned the man's head. They saw the face. A white man!" Hana whispered. Yes, it was a white man. The wet cap fell away and there was his wet yellow hair long, at though for many weeks it had not been cut, and upon his young and tortured face was a rough yellow beard. He was unconscious and knew nothing that they did for him.

(a) Complete the following suitably. The white man's face is described as 'tortured' because apparently

(b) What is the tone in the given extract?

(c) The theme of the story is

- (i) humanity
- (ii) punctuality
- (iii) dedication
- (iv) honesty

(d) The author's description of the stranger uses the word 'yellow', What does this show about the stranger?

Q9. Read the following extracts and answer the questions for any one of the given two, A or B. 6M

A. Poor man! it was in honour of this last lesson that he had put on his fine Sunday clothes, and now: I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room. It was because they were sorry, too, that they had not gone to school more. It was their way of thanking our master for his forty years of faithful service and of showing their respect for the country that

was theirs no more. While I was thinking of all this, I heard my name called. It was my turn to recite. What would I not have given to be able to say that dreadful rule for the participle all through, very loud and clear, and without one mistake? But I got mixed up on the first words and stood there, holding on to my desk, my heart beating, and not daring to look up.

(a) List any two sensory details present in the extract.

(b) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank.

The narrator used the term (poor/rich) man about M. Hamel because he felt sorry for him and it was his last French lesson.

(c) Complete the following suitably.

The presence of the old men of the village on the back benches shows that

(d) What do the words 'the country that was theirs no more' indicate about the people of France?

(e) How did the teacher react to this show of 'non-performance'?

- (i) He didn't utter a harsh word in response.
- (ii) He ignored his pupil's lack of commitment.
- (iii) He let the iron ruler talk.
- (iv) He let Franz be free and sent him out.

(f) What does the following line from the extract, showcase?

Poor man! It was in honour of this last lesson that he had put on fine Sunday clothes, and now I understood why the old men of the village were sitting there in the back of the room.

- (i) terror
- (ii) confusion

(iii) realisation

(iv) empathy

Or

B. And afterwards you wait there alone in the arcade for a long while, standing where he stood remembering the soft melodious voice, the shimmer of green eyes. No taller than you. He bolder than you. The prodigy. The innocent genius. The great Danny Casey. And the same it all again, last Saturday saw him ghost past the lumbering defenders, heard the fifty thousand catch their breath as he hovered momentarily over the ball, and then the explosion of sound as he struck it crisply into the goal, the sudden thunderous eruption of exultant approbation.

(a) What does the author wish to portray through the words 'And she saw it all again'?

(b) Select the correct option from those given in brackets to fill in the blank. Danny Casey was a (prodigy/average man)

(c) Complete the following with a suitable reason,

"The Prodigy. The Innocent. The great Danny Casey" from this, the inference can be drawn that

(d) List any two sensory details present in this extract.

(e) The line, "And afterwards you walt there alone in the arcade for a long while, standing where he stood" can be best classified as

- (i) an objective fact
- (ii) a figment of imagination
- (iii) a plot point
- (iv) a subjective opinion

(f) Based on the context provided in the extract, which of the following conclusion matches the prodigy's success as a professional football player?

(i) A crowd of fifty-thousand regularly cheered him.

(ii) He could deftly move past the lumbering defenders and shoot crisp goals.

(iii) He was called an innocent genius.

(iv) He was shy and soft-spoken.

Q10. Answer any five of the following six questions in 40-50 words each: 5x2=10 M

(a) Why does the author say that the bangle makers of Firozabad are caught in a vicious web of poverty? (Lost Spring)

(b) Reflect upon the symbolism of 'embroidery' in the poem 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'.

(c) What sort of terror seized Douglas as he went down the water for a second time? How could he feel that he was still alive?

(d) What was the plea of the folk who had put up the roadside stand?

(e) The poet refers to sadness in the poem 'Keeping Quiet. What is the thought behind it?

(f) Who was Subbu's principal in Gemini Studios? (Poets and Pancakes)

Q11. Answer any two of the following three questions in 40-50 words each: 2x2=4 M

a) Does Kalki use satire to comment on the debasing of those in authority? Was the Tiger King a fair ruler who had the best interests of his citizens at heart?

(b) How was the General in the palm of Sadao's hand? (The Enemy)

(c) Why did Charley rush back from the third level?

Q12. Answer any one of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 5M

A. Umberto Eco himself says that he started writing novels by accident. He essentially considers himself a university professor who writes novels on Sundays. But when it comes to Eco's academic work, one has to admit that it has a certain playful and personal quality about it. Comment on this with reference to the lesson, 'The Interview'.

Or

8. Obstacles determine the quality of life. Hermits feel convinced that sweet is fruit of adversity. Problems are opportunities. Elucidate the saying taking ideas from the

given lines: "Events justified Gandhi's position. Within a few years, the British planters abandoned their estates, which reverted to the peasants. Indigo sharecropping disappeared."

Q13. Answer any one of the following two questions, in about 120-150 words. 5M

A. The title of the play 'On the Face of It' refers to Derry's burnt, ugly face. Although there is a fallacy in this statement, on the face of it, it reflects a common attitude of the common people. Justify.

Or

B. What kind of indications do we get while visiting Antarctica to save Earth? How does principle of the 'Domino Effect' apply here?

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